

RARITAN VALLEY ARTS ASSOCIATION Established 1939

February 2005 Newsletter

President: Linda Arnold
Newsletter: Diana Patton
497 Stony Brook Drive
Bridgewater, 08807

Snowflake Greetings!

Keeping warm, everyone! Painting with a warm cup of tea or mug of cocoa (or glass of wine?) can help. And to keep your spirits warm, do come to our next meeting, which will be soon, **TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH**, 7:30 pm at the Somerset County Library, Meeting Room B (this is a change—the library has something else doing on Valentine’s Day). Gene Feller is our demonstrator. Gene is a protégé of renowned artist Frank Zuccarelli, our own Honorary Member. He’s a consistent award winner; I remember years ago Gene and I were at some of the same outdoor shows. Gene will probably be doing an oil demo, although he is proficient in several media. Mary Lou Guididas and Geri Oldman will be providing our refreshments in February; Judy Hummer did in January, and we thank them all. Thanks also to Joan McKinney, whose watercolor demo of a porch painting was thoroughly enjoyed by all!

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU, MARIAN! **THANK YOU, MARIAN CORNWELL, FOR BEING OUR** **TREASURER FOR AT LEAST FIFTEEN YEARS!**

We needed you and you’ve always come through for us; you’ve always kept perfect records, paid our bills, and done it beautifully. But we suppose if you and your husband are moving to Long Island, that we have to live with your resignation. And we wish you both all the very best when you make the big move! We are fortunate that Barbara Fiorentino has stepped forward to take on the position and that Marian is of course graciously getting Barbara ready for the job.

Wow! RVAA has not just one, but two, wonderful trips to the **BIG APPLE** upcoming! Mary Ann Vaccaro is running a trip to the **NEW MOMA**, Museum of Modern Art, on March 19th. What a chance to see the new architecture everyone is talking about as well as welcoming back all the Monets, Van Gogh, Renoirs, Degas, and much, much more in their **BRAND NEW DIGS**. As usual the bus will pick us up at the library (upper parking lot) and take us right to the museum. The cost will probably be \$28. and the exact time will be in the next Newsletter. However the time to reserve your seat is now and you can

do so by phoning Mary Ann at 908/704-1685 and then mailing a check to her at 105 Brokaw Court, Bridgewater, NJ, 08807. Bring your friends or your significant other, and see the new building and sculpture garden, as well as all the art.

However, you won't want to forget our second trip—this will be Saturday April 16th, and it is our Annual Trip to the **METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART, SALMAGUNDI CLUB**, and the **FORBES MUSEUM**. Once again Debbie Hughes has kindly agreed to run this **EXCITING TRIP** and **you've just got to be there**. The bus picks us up at 8:45 am at the upper parking lot of the library, takes us all over, and brings us back about 6 pm. Yes, there is a restroom aboard, and Debbie even brings snacks and drinks for the ride home. Cost will probably be \$28. and you can let Debbie know at 908/725-4639, or just send a check made out to RVAA and mail to her at 255 Falmouth Place, Bridgewater, 08807. Both trips are exciting, and a really good buy, considering gas, parking, and the inconvenience and stress of doing it yourself. Admission price you pay, of course, but all the transportation is paid, and it's like having a taxi with a bathroom. RVAA thanks both Debbie and Mary Ann for giving us these opportunities!

Trinity United Church will hold its Second Annual Community Art Show on Saturday, April 23rd from 10:00 am to 4 pm. The lady in charge is our own Kit Bebbington and you may give her a call at 732/356-3730 if you would like more information or wish to reserve a space. This should be done before February 15th to insure your space. Your editor was in the show last year and it was very well run, with a wide variety of art mediums represented.

We also have notice of Visual Arts Celebration 2005, an Outdoor Juried Show and Sale of Fine Art and Fine Crafts, sponsored by the Township of East Brunswick, the East Brunswick Arts Commission, and the Visual Arts Celebration Committee. Over 100 artists from the NJ and the Metropolitan area attend. This year it's Saturday, June 11th and you may call 732/390-6797 for a prospectus.

Nationally acclaimed watercolor artist Dan Burt will be giving a workshop sponsored by the Garden State Watercolor Society September 19th –22nd. This will be held about 25 minutes away (or less) at the Montgomery Center for the Arts, 1860 House. It's a great opportunity to catch this artist-teacher. Please call Joan McKinney at 722-5140 if you will want a prospectus.

Your editor received an interesting invite for all to attend the Artist's Reception March 3, at 7 pm, and the Artist's Talk, March 10th at 7pm, at Rider University Art Gallery. The artist is Isaac Witkin; the show is entitled "Out of the Crucible: Images Born of Fire &

Water”; the postcard pictures a sculptor at work in his studio. The show runs March 3-April 10th ; gallery hours are Tues-Thurs 11-7 and Sundays, noon to 4.

Incidentally, Joan was using a couple of Daniel Smith’s quinacridone colors during her demo and your editor has “fallen in love” with some of the 15 or more quinacridone colors from Daniel Smith. They just have released their Spring Sale 2005 catalogue and they have a humungous regular catalog. Check them out at www.danielsmith.com or phone 1-800-426-6740. You might also want to check out the Blick Studio (clayboard, Yupo, and lots more, with a store you can even visit, in Allentown, PA) at www.dickblick.com or phone 1-800-828-4548. Put even more fun into your painting!

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

KEN BERNHARD is now a member of the American Society of Marine Artists. This past summer Ken received Best of Show in Watercolor at the Lavalette Heritage Show.

ELSA HERRMANN received an Honorable Mention for a tiny watercolor of a “Lighthouse” at the Jane Law Gallery on Long Beach Island, the gallery’s annual Juried Miniature Art Exhibition.

DEBBIE HUGHES has an oil painting entitled “Daisies” in the Johnson & Johnson Juried Art Exhibition held at the Corporate Headquarters in New Brunswick, New Jersey.

DIANA PATTON has a one-woman exhibit of 29 works, watercolor and mixed media, at the Art Gallery of Capital Health, Mercer Campus, on Bellevue Avenue, in Trenton, from February 7th to March 18th.

SONJA WEIR’S one-woman show “Efflorescent Dreamscapes”, mainly watercolors, ran from January 7th—February 1st at the Amsterdam Whitney Gallery, International fine Art, Ink, in Chelsea, New York City. (you can visit the gallery’s website at www.amsterdamwhitneygallery.com)

I appreciate your giving me your news; please continue to do so.

Diana Wilkoc Patton
497 Stony Brook Dr.
Bridgewater, NJ 08807